

HIRSTIELLA PELAEZI, A NEW LIZARD PARASITE FROM MEXICO

(ACARINA, PTERYGOSOMIDAE)

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This mite was sent from Mexico City by Anita Hoffmann for determination because of its possible role in the transmission of a disease of lizards. Work on this disease, which has been done by Dr. D. Peláez, is being published in another journal.

***Hirstiella pelaezi*, new species**

Female.—Palpus (figs. 1, 2) 5-segmented, rather short, extending to anterior of femur of leg I with a low flat thumb on the terminal segment from which arise seven setae; three of these setae are serrate and pointed; two are smooth and pointed, and two are smooth and rodlike. Chelicerae (fig. 2) with a minute distal movable chela, typical for the genus. On tarsus I there is a smooth rodlike sense organ. Legs arranged on body as in typical free-living form. Dorsal shield (fig. 3) triangular in shape and differentiated from the rest of the body by having fine striae; there is a notch on the anterior central portion with a seta on each side. Thirteen pairs of pilose setae on the dorsum with an ezeplate and lenslike eye on the shoulder area and a seta on each lateral border. On the venter (fig. 4) coxae I and II are fused, with two pair of setae. Coxae III and IV are fused, with three setae. The ventral genital orifice is located anteriorly to the ventral terminal anal opening. There are six pair of setae on the venter of the hysterosoma.

Length of body including rostrum 1004 μ .Width 654 μ .

Nymph. The nymph is in general similar to the female except in lacking a genital orifice.

Male. Not known.

Type host. *Sceloporus ferrari-perezi* (lizard).

Type locality. Mexico D. F.

Types: A female holotype U. S. National Museum No. 1850; a paratype; and one nymph: all in the U. S. National Museum.

Remarks: This mite, although closely related to *Hirstiella trombidiformes* Berlese, 1920, of which three nymphs have been examined, differs in size of body, type of chelicerae, and size of rostrum. The nymphal material of *Hirstiella trombidiformes* Berlese 1920 was compared with Berlese's material in the British Museum by C. D. Radford.

¹Entire costs paid by author to obtain immediate publication.



PLATE 4. *HIRSTIELLA PELAEZI* FEMALE

Fig. 1, apical segments of palpus; fig. 2, dorsum of rostrum; fig. 3, dorsal view, legs omitted; fig. 4, ventral view.